

lar congressional election and in accordance with requirements as to time, notice, and form in Article 33 of this Code; and shall be for adoption or rejection by a majority of those voting on the question.

(2) The referendum petition shall be filed with the board of supervisors of elections within forty days after a bill is enacted and shall contain the signatures of at least ten per centum of the registered voters of the county. If more than one half but less than the full number of signatures required to complete any referendum petition against a public local law are filed within forty days from the date it is enacted, the time for the public local law to take effect and the time for filing the remainder of signatures to complete the petition shall be extended for an additional forty days, with like effect.

(3) A petition may consist of several papers, but each paper shall contain the full text of the public local law or part of the public local law petitioned to referendum, and there shall be attached to each paper an affidavit of the person procuring the signatures thereon that, to his personal knowledge, each signature thereon is genuine and bona fide, and that to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief the signers are registered voters of the State of Maryland and of the code county, as set opposite their names. The board of supervisors of elections shall verify the registration of the petitioners.

(4) If the petition is filed with the board of supervisors of elections in compliance with all provisions of law, the public local law shall not take effect until thirty days after its approval by a majority of the registered voters voting on the question. An emergency bill shall remain in force from its effective date notwithstanding the filing of the petition, but it shall be repealed thirty days after having been rejected by a majority of the registered voters voting thereon.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety and having been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 23, 1971.

CHAPTER 73
(Senate Bill 348)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 16 of Article 25B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Home Rule for Code Counties," subtitle "Creation of Public Debt by Code Counties," removing the maximum interest rate provision relating to the sale of bonds by a code county.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 16 of Article 25B of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1970 Supplement), title "Home Rule for Code Counties," subtitle "Creation of Public Debt by Code Counties," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows: